Of Interest to Every Woman

Edited by Martha Westover.

WHEN DAYS ARE CHILL

When days are chill and skies loom dark above,
I find relief from woe in thoughts of Love;
And if from thoughts of it I then proceed
To give it some reality in deed,
Ere comes the passage to the realms of night,
The day grows warm and the skies surpassing bright.

OLD MIRRORS WE ARE ALL HUNTING

Almost every owner of a modern Colonial home, be it in the city, suburbs or country, is on a still hunt for an old mirror with which to embellish its walls; for these not only give perspective and distinction to a room, but impel the fancy to conjure up a vision of the smiling faces in quaint poke bonnets—and the graver ones under queer masculine hats—that once consulted these impartial judges as to whether they were altogether fetching and captivating.

In the times, however, when the belles and beaux of yore thus preened themselves the mirrors were most frequently called looking-glasses and were by no means articles of such easy accessibility as we find our newly-made ones in this year of grace.

Followed Restoration.

They were not in common use in England until after the Restoration in 1666, and, although there were a few of these sent over to the Colonies, those of the seventeenth century are so unlikely to be picked up that the wise amateur does not set her heart upon them.

It is the eighteenth century mirrors that every one is hunting, and those of the first quarter of the nineteenth. These came over in sufficient numbers to have become familiar to us in the numerous heirlooms preserved in the old homes of the thirteen original Colonies, in private and public collections and through illustrations and reproductions.

It was during the eighteenth century that our forbears began to add the luxuries of life to the utilities, and mirrors, very naturally, being among the first luxuries craved by the Colonial dames, were frequently part of a cargo and managed, miraculously, to withstand the voyage over seas in tossing sailing vessels.

The Flat Frames.

Those of the Queen Anne and George I. period, from 1702 to 1727, had flat veneered frames, of walnut at first, but succeeded by mahogany about 1730. The edges of these frames were cut in graceful curves, the broken arch usually appearing on top. Indeed, this broken arch or "swan's neck," as it is sometimes called, was a top ornament which was characteristic of most of the furniture of that century.

Dyer, an authority on this subject, tells us to carefully note the surmounting urn ornamenting many of these old mirrors. On some, he says, the urn ornament used from 1720 to 1740 were shaped like a goblet, which differed from the Chippendale, Hepplewhite and Adam urns of later date, though in other respects some of the Queen Anne mirrors closely resembled those of the Georgian period.

He reminds us that another Queen Anne urn was squat in shape, like a small soup tureen, while that of Chippendale was egg-shaped; and that the more classic urn of Hepplewhite and Adam was not seen until after 1775.

On the frames of mirrors dating from 1700 to 1750 there is frequently a bird, usually a pheasant, flying through an opening. The shape of the glass itself is a guide to date, those of that period being curved at the top, while those of the Georgian period were square.

The Chippendale period in mirrors is from 1750 to 1780, many of them showthe Louis Quinze influence. Others had fable subjects in the decorations, especially those of Aesop.

Ovals and Oblongs.

Some of the most eager hunters of antique mirrors seek the oval and oblong ones—those known as girandoles. Chippendale made ornately beautiful ones, as did other fine craftsmen whose work is now eagerly sought, notably Mayhew, Lock, Johnson and Mainwaring. The round mirrors were made in pairs, from 1760 to 1790. Those made by Hepplewhite and Adam had medallions at the top and bottom, fan ornaments, urns, eagles, the ram's head and the husk pattern.

The "Constitution" mirrors are also much hunted. They had flat frames of solid or veneered mahogany, curved at the bottom, and were made from 1780 to 1790. They have gilt ornaments at the sides and a gilt eagle of wood or plaster in the broken arch at the top. One of similar design appeared from 1810 to 1815. We are warned that many of the mirrors of this type, made both in England and America, so closely reproduced the lines of the Queen Anne style that hunters of old mirrors often confuse those of 1730 with the 1800 product; but this they would not do if noting the fact that the Queen Anne mirror frames were not mahogany.

With Candleholders.

The girandoles with candleholders branching from the sides were popular from 1780, and a beautifully preserved one is still in Longfellow's home.

Of the mantle mirrors of the eighteenth century both oval and oblong shapes were much in vogue, those with the cornice effect, by Adams and others, being especially fine. Some of us can remember certain old-fashioned rooms frequented in our childhood where one of these beautiful old oblong mirrors graced each of the mantles in the double parlors.

Such homes also treasured, in many cases, an inherited mirror of the three-section type, the kind often called Colonial mirrors, but which, having columns or pilasters dividing the glass, date after 1800.

Many old homes have retained their Empire mirrors that came in about 1805. Some of these are flat mahogany frames with brass ornaments and brass-capped pillars at the sides. The Empire style is easily distinguished from any other.

With a Rope Pattern.

Another mirror often erroneously called Colonial is one that really belongs to 1825, and yet we all covet it as a possession. This, one of the most familiar of old mirrors, has a thick frame of turned wood, gilded in baluster or rope pattern, with or without small brass or wooden rosettes in the corners.

In the first quarter of the nineteenth century many of the medium and smaller mirrors had historical and patriotic pictures painted on the upper part, or sometimes pastoral scenes. While we cannot define the why or wherefore of it, since they have not reached the 100-year mark, these mirrors have always impressed many of us as the quaintest of all the survivals; but the endless repetition of them, because of their now constant reproduction, bids fair to lessen their appeal and dim the glory of their associations.

An Italian Type.

Besides these English and American glasses a few made on the Continent were brought over in early days, notably the Bilboa mirrors, made in Italy and sent to Massachusetts, from whence they migrated to the other Colonies.

When one of these very handsome and eagerly sought old Bilboa mirrors of the eighteenth century has been from your childhood a familiar object on your walls you may surely be pardoned your natural pride in an antique which is one of the rarest of the mirrors now being hunted. This one has a frame of veined pink marble, with pillars of the same material at the sides; and is topped with a flared central urn from which emerges an elaborate floral design of gilded wood. The heavy beveled glass has a beading of gilded wood on the inner edges, and the feet are also of this material.

In addition to being securely hung, this, like all other old looking-glasses, was supported on two enameled rosettes, with painted scenes on them, screwed into the wainscoting of the room. These rosettes were also made of brass and of glass, and all those who are hunting an old mirror try to "come up with" a pair of rosettes on which to rest it.

In order to be sure of maker, date and other essential particulars, the amateur hunter of old mirrors should make it a point to study the illustrated books of such authorities as Dyer, Moore, Earle and Lockwood.—Marian V. Dorsey.

New Indian Animal Stories

How the Coyote Saved the Daylight.

By John M. Oskison.

Long time ago there was more than one story told to the little Indian boys and girls to explain why night follows day and summer follows winter, every day in the year and every year of the many years which pass between the time you are a tiny bit of a baby and the time you are as old and wise as the old men who told the stories—and longer than that!

One of these stories was told to the little ones of a tribe of Indians who lived in the North:

Once a grizzly bear met a coyote at the edge of the woods, and they sat down to have a talk. After they had talked awhile, the grizzly bear said:

"Of all the animals on the earth I am the greatest in magic. When I wish a thing to be so, it is so! Now I have been thinking for a long time that the darkness lasts too short a time every day—and I'm going to make it dark all the while." But the coyote cried out:

"Oh, that wouldn't do at all! That would be too bad for the people and all the animals. You must not do it!" But the bear only said:

"Yes, I will do it; and I'll do it right now!" And he began at once to dance and sing: "Darkness, come! Darkness, come! Let it always be dark!"

But at the same time the coyote (who also had magic, though he had never boasted that he had) began to dance and sing, too. And he sang: "Light, light, light, light. May it be light!"

So they went on dancing and singing a very long time. First the coyote got tired and fell asleep; and as soon as he was asleep the song of the grizzly bear (who went on dancing) was answered, and darkness came. But after a while the grizzly bear got sleepy and stopped dancing and singing; he lay down and went to sleep.

At that the coyote woke up. He looked round and saw that it was dark, and so he began to dance and sing once more. Then the daylight came back to the earth to stay as long as the grizzly bear slept.

Well, the two went on dancing and singing and sleeping until both got very tired, and when that happened the grizzly bear said to the coyote:

"Let us make a bargain. To please me, let it be dark half the time, and to please you, let it be light half the time." And the two agreed to that. After that was settled both of them lay down for a long, long sleep.

Ever since that day the light has come just as the sun is getting ready to rise, and lasts until he is just ready to go to bed; and ever since that day the night has followed the going to bed of the sun, making the world dark. If you were to count the hours from one end of the year to the other, when it was light, you would find that they were exactly as many as the hours when it was dark—that is, if you lived where those little Indian boys and girls lived.

TUNICS.

—They may startle.
—They may be flaring.
—They may even be triple.
—They may make the gods weep.
—But they need not be terrifying.
—There are sane, harmless little tunics.
—There are soft, graceful tunics sans wires.
—Tunics may be plain or edged with fur or a ruffle.

A new idea in a coat for early spring. The Paris model was in velvet, but our dressmakers will develop it in tweed and homespun.

The Great Trials of History

DESPARD TRIAL OF 1803.

One of the most exciting of the English state trials of the nineteenth century was that of Colonel Despard and a party of conspirators, whose intention was, it was claimed, to murder the King and revolutionize the government. This occurred at the beginning of that century, and the conspiracy seems to have spread all over the country, for the uprising against the government was not confined alone to London, but to every section. There was a general dissatisfaction not only throughout the country, but there were evidences of revolt in the army and navy over existing conditions. It was just a time when conspiracy could easily be rooted in the minds of a people who felt that they were not only misgoverned, but that they were being betrayed.

It only required a clever and desperate leader to raise and bring to maturity the dangerous crop of disaffection that had been sown everywhere. Such a man was apparently ready to hand in a brave and meritorious officer, Colonel Despard, who at the time was smarting under a bitter grievance and whose gallant deeds gave him a great and most dangerous influence among the soldiers.

While soldiering in the Spanish Main he appears to have gotten into disputes with the English there, and such serious complaints of his conduct were sent home that he was suspended and returned to England to demand the fullest inquiry into his conduct.

Irritated at his treatment, he appears to have taken a violent part in politics. For a part he took in the Irish Rebellion of 1798 he was arrested and committed to cold Bath Fields bridewell, where his harsh treatment became the subject of animated discussions in both houses of Parliament. From his first prison he was transferred to the House of Correction at Shrewsbury, and thence back to the bridewell in Tothill Fields, without even being able to learn the particulars of the charges against him, much less to obtain the verdict of a jury on their truth or falsehood.

The conspiracy, on account of which Despard met his death as a traitor, was hatched during the spring and summer of 1802, and the time for its execution the latter part of November. The new Parliament had lately met, and the swearing in of members had proceeded so rapidly that it was hoped that on November 16, the day set for the carrying out of the project, the King would attend the formal opening of Parliament.

In those days the royal procession assembled in the park at the back of St. James's Palace and crossed the Mall on its way to St. Stephens. Hence one of the mad projects of these men was to get one of the soldier conspirators to be selected as sentry over the long Indian gun on the Mall, and to load and fire it through the crowd the moment when the state coach came within range.

Parliament, happily, was not ready, and the royal visit was in consequence postponed to the 23d. In the meantime the conspirators were arrested and the miserable project was stifled in its cradle. In this conspiracy Colonel Despard was the only man above the working classes who apparently had a share; the others were soldiers and workmen.

Among them, from the very inception, was a traitor, Thomas Windsor, a soldier in the Guards, who revealed the secret of the conspiracy, and his evidence in turn was sanctioned by William Francis and Thomas Rlades These men gave the government full information of a plot which was of the wildest and most reckless character.

The trial of Despard and other leaders in the conspiracy began on February 7, 1803. Spencer Perceval, the attorney-general, was in charge of the case. Colonel Despard was tried separately, the charge being "compassing and intending the King's death." Several persons testified to Despard having said: "His Majesty must be put to death, and the people will be at liberty." He was also charged with saying, "he had weighed everything well within him, and God may know his heart was callous; he would do it with his own hand."

The trial of Despard lasted until 3 o'clock in the morning, and the following day all the other conspirators were tried and found guilty. The execution of the sentence was deferred until Monday, the 21st, and in deference to the improved spirit of the age, the disgusting details legally attendant on an execution for high treason were omitted by royal command, and that of dragging the prisoners on hurdles around the prison yard on the road to execution and the subsequent decapitation of the lifeless bodies alone retained.

Even on the scaffold Despard protested entire innocence, and declared that the minister knew that he was guiltless. Colonel Despard's dying denial was not believed by the crowd, who looked upon the other sufferers as his victims.

FOR THE HOME SHAMPOO

BY FRANCES MARSHALL.

The most difficult thing about the home shampoo is that usually the person who does it is handicapped in many ways—by a lack of knowledge of the work she is trying to do, by a lack of contrivances with which to do it and by the fact that she is generally working upside down at her own head.

It is much easier to shampoo somebody else's head than your own. It is also easy to gain information about shampooing that will make the work much easier, and it is possible to buy or make some contrivance to simplify the work.

To begin with, there must be plenty of water—hot for the washing and either warm or cool for the rinsing. It is a very good plan, if there is a shower bath over the bathtub, to use this for the rinsing. The one who is receiving the shampoo can kneel on a low chair, the back of which is turned toward the tub, and support her arms on the chair back.

If there is no shower bath, one of the detachable rubber showers that can be bought for a moderate price is useful. It consists of a length of rubber tubing, one end of which slips over the faucet and the other end of which is a rubber or metal spray. This can be used for both washing and the rinsing.

A short-sleeved waist should be worn by the person doing the shampooing. The one receiving it should wear adequate protection for the clothes. A big duck apron, or one of ticking, is convenient. A length of wide material, doubled to go over the shoulders, with a circular hole cut for the neck, and drawn up with a tape under the chin, is a good sort to make.

There should, of course, be plenty of towels. One should be folded over the edge of the basin for the head or neck to rest on, and two others, small and soft, should be tucked in the neck, over the big apron. Another should be at hand to use if the eyes smart from soap or water.

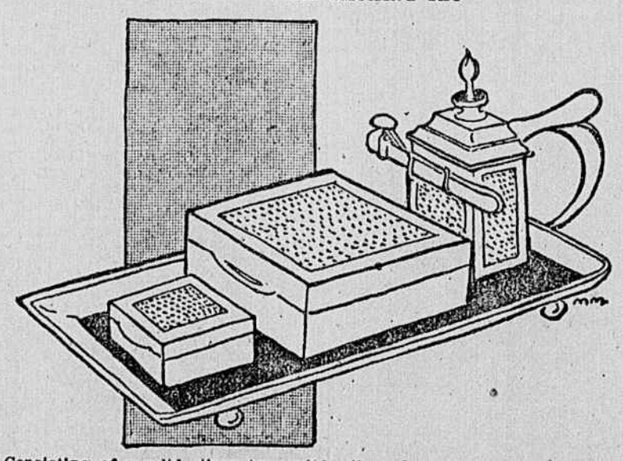
A good trick of the professionals is to put a little cotton batting in each ear, to keep the water from gathering there.

WHAT TO USE.

There are advocates for almost every shampoo mixture imaginable. Castile soap, shaved and dissolved in boiling water, to each quart of which an ounce of borax has been added, is a cleansing mixture for most hair. A few drops, three or four, of ammonia can be added to each basinful of water in which this soap is used. The soap can be rubbed directly on the hair and scalp.

This is a good shampoo mixture: Dissolve a drachm of camphor in two ounces of alcohol. Mix half an ounce of glycerine, an ounce of borax, half an ounce of bicarbonate of soda and a quart of rose water and add to the camphor and alcohol.

A HANDSOME SMOKING SET



Consisting of a solid silver tray with silver lamp, cigar cutter, cigar box and match box.

SUNDAY MENU

Breakfast.
Grapefruit
Boiled Rice With Cream
Country Sausage, Broiled
Cream Waffles Coffee

Dinner.
Chicken Broth with Rice
Baked Fowl, Stuffed
Brown Dressing
Corn Baked Sweet Potatoes
Apple and Nut Salad
Frozen Custard Macaroons
Coffee

Supper.
Creamed Oysters in Chafing Dish
Sandwiches Coffee
Jellied Apples and Cream
Layer Cake